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Lanchester Rural District Council.

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the



## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1961

ROSETTA HILL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

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NORMAN WARD LTD. LOW FELL GATESHEAD 9.

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Health Department,

Council Offices,

Lanchester,

Durham.

## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1961.

It has been a satisfactory year with the incidence of infectious disease low apart from an epidemic of Measles. The most outstanding items in the health statistics are a marked fall in the infantile mortality rate, and an increase in the birth rate and death rate.

There were two cases of poliomyelitis notified, the first to occur in the area since 1959. There were no cases of diphtheria and no maternal deaths.

Although the number of deaths from tuberculosis has fallen, there is not a corresponding reduction in the number of notified cases, many of which occur in older people.

Liaison with general practitioners and hospital medical officers remains good.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their continued support, and the staff of the department for their loyal cooperation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours fathfully,

ROSETTA HILL, Medical Officer of Health.

## Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health and County Area Medical Officer for Consett and Stanley Urban and Lanchester Rural District:
ROSETTA HILL, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors:

- G. ROWE, Cert.S.I.B. and Meat Inspectors' Certificate. Senior Public Health Inspector.
- F. E. TERRY, Cert. S.I.B. and Meat Inspectors' Certificate.

Clerical Staff:

K. W. THOMPSON.

## I. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE

LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

#### 

Under 5 years 5-15 years	 				1,156 1,964
Number of Inhabited Houses	 	 	 	• •	4,403

(1	) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	21
(2	Number of Council and North Eastern Association Aged Persons	
`	Homes	123
(3	Number of Council and North Fastern Association Houses	1.800

#### 

The Lanchester Rural District as at present constituted, came into being on 1st April, 1937, and consists of nine parishes—Cornsay, Esh, Greencroft, Healeyfield, Hedleyhope, Lanchester, Langley, Muggleswick and Satley.

#### DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS			
		England	
		and	
	Lanchester	Wales	County
LIVE BIRTHS	245		
Rate per 1,000 population	16.77	17.4	18.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live			
births	2.45		3.1
STILL-BIRTHS	4	40.4	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	16.1	19.1	22.2
Total Live and Still-births	249	-	-
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	5		
Infant Mortality Rates	20.41	21.6	0.0
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	20.41	21.6	23
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 total legitimate live births			22.4
live births	20.92		23.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 total illegitimate live births	NUL		27.5
mate live births	Nil		27.5
per 1,000 total live births)	16.32	15.5	16.3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under	10.32	13.3	10.5
1 week per 1,000 total live births)	12.24		13.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths	12.24		13.0
under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live			
and stillbirths)	28.11	32.2	35.7
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion):	20.11	<i>32.2</i>	33.1
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil	0.33	0.45
DEATHS	231	••••	·
Rate per 1,000 population	15.82	12.0	11.2
TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS	1		
Rate per 1,000 population	0.06	0.07	0.08
* **			

Provisional Rate

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, *i.e.*, rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population were 17.27 and 13.60 respectively. When comparing the above rates it must be realised that in a population of 14,600 (approximately) the rates frequently fluctuate from year to year, one or two additional deaths producing what would appear at first sight to be a significant change.

#### **Births**

(a)	Live Births :						Males	Females	Total
( )	Legitimate Illegitimate	• •		• •			130 6	109	239 6
					Totals		136	109	245
(b)	Still Births :								
	Legitimate Illegitimate	• •	• •		• •		2	2	4
	megitimate	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •			
					Totals	• •	2	2	4

During the year there were four still-births as compared with three last year.

#### **Deaths**

		Males	Females	Totals
Deaths during the year		118	113	231
Deaths from Puerperal causes	• •			

#### (a) Infant Deaths

The number of infant deaths during the year was 5 (20.41 per 1,000 live births) as compared with 7 (31.39 per 1,000 live births) in the previous year. Three of these occurred in the first week of life.

The Infantile Mortality rate, which can be regarded as a good index of the health of the community, has fallen this year, and compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales, 21.6 — the lowest ever recorded.

During the year there were the following deaths under one year of age:—

All Legitimate	 	Males 4	Females 1	Totals 5	Rate per 1,000 live Births 20.41
(b) Deaths (General)			Males	Females	Totals
ALL CAUSES			. 118	113	231

For detailed statistics and trends see Appendix A.

1	Cardio Vascular :—	Males	Females	Totals
1.	<ul> <li>(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system</li> <li>(b) Coronary disease</li> <li>(c) Hypertension with heart disease</li> <li>(d) Other heart diseases</li> <li>(e) Other circulatory diseases</li> </ul>	17 24 3 8 4	20 24 4 12 6	44 48 7 20 10
	Totals	63	66	129
2	Chest Diseases :—			
2.	<ul> <li>(a) Pneumonia</li></ul>	8 6 2	1 1 —	9 7 2
	Totals	16	2	18
3	Cancer:—			
	<ul> <li>(a) Stomach</li> <li>(b) Lung Bronchus</li> <li>(c) Breast</li> <li>(d) Uterus</li> <li>(e) Other Sites, including Lymphatic Neoplasms</li> </ul>	3 5 — 5	2 -3 1 7	5 5 3 1
	Totals	13	13	26
5. 6. 7. 8. 9 10. 11. 12.	Tuberculosis (all forms)  Syphilitic disease  Influenza  Diabetes  Other infective and Parasitic disease  Ulcer of Stomach  Congenital Malformations  Other Defined and Ill-defined diseases.  Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea  Motor Vehicle Accidents  All other accidents	1 1 1 2 1 20 1	1 1 1 1 - 2 22 1 1 1 2	1 1 1 2 1 2 3 42 2 1 2

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Pneumonia and Bronchitis in that order of prevalence.

The number of deaths from coronary disease showed a marked increase this year; there being 48 deaths as compared with 25 in the previous year — 24 of the 48 deaths were in men.

The increasing incidence of this disease has led to much research into its cause. Recent investigations have shown that the amount of animal fat in the diet may be an important factor, and that smoking, lack of physical exercise and the stress and strain of life may also in some way contribute to the cause.

There were 5 deaths from cancer of the lung all of whom were men; in 1960 there were 3 deaths (all men). The incidence of lung cancer continues to increase. It is now the most common form of cancer mortality and was responsible for almost 23,000 deaths in England and Wales last year, predominantly in men in the prime of life.

It has been generally accepted for some time that there is a direct association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. Since the report of the Royal College of Physicians on Smoking and Health, the need for health education is now recognized and it is hoped that intensive campaigns on the subject will be directed to all school children and young people.

There were 7 deaths from bronchitis this year as compared with 12 in the previous year. This disease is one of the big problems in public health in this country; the incidence being much higher than in Europe and America. In England and Wales it was responsible for over 30,000 deaths last year. There is much research being done into the cause of the disease and there is now evidence that atmosphere pollution and cigarette smoking may be important factors concerned.

During the year there were 3 accidents causing deaths. One of these was a road accident (a little girl aged 5, run down by a motor vehicle), and there were 2 accidents in the home caused by falls, both in elderly women.

This emphasizes the importance of health education in home safety, so that those responsible for the care of old people are aware of possible dangers and of the precautions to be taken to prevent accidents in the home.

It is pleasing to note that there were no deaths from burns. Although flame resistant materials are now available in greater quantity, there is still disinterest amongst the public. The cost of this material as compared with flammable material deters many people from buying it.

## II. HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

## A. Environmental Circumstances and Local Authority Services.

## (a) General

Water. The Durham County Water Board supply gave no cause for complaint as regards quantity or quality.

The following nine properties had a mains supply connected, thus excluding four questionable spring supplies :—

Woodlands Park Farm, Knitsley	• •	 	1
West Shields Farm, Satley		 	1
Dene House Farm, Lanchester		 	1
Broadwood Hall, Farm and Cotta	ges	 	6
			9

Towards the end of the year the question of providing a mains water supply to properties between Satley and Ragpathside and Red Houses, Knitsley area, was taken a stage further by formal approach to the Ministry for possibility of grant towards the schemes.

During the year twenty check samples were taken of spring supplies and the results were as follows:—

#### SAMPLING RESULTS

Parish		Number of Samples		GRADE			
ran	SII		Samples	1	2	3	4
Cornsay Healeyfield Lanchester Satley	• •		1 4 14 1	6		1 2 —	1 3 6 1
			20	6	_	3	11

Four samples taken in Healeyfield Parish related to a property now supplied with mains supply, while one taken in Lanchester concerned a spring supply now replaced by a mains supply.

The revised table shows the water supply for those properties not supplied by a mains supply.

	No.	of	,	Гуре of St	upply		N	Iethod of	Distrib	ution	
Parish	Houses	Popu-	Public	Private			Carried	Gravity	Pum-	House	Service
	latio		Spring	Reser- voir	Spring	Well	Carrieu	Piped	ped	Inside	Out
Cornsay Healeyfield Lanchester Muggleswick	3 14 48 36 10	10 42 144 126 35			2 14 42 32 10	1 6 1	1 3 11 —	2 11 18 33		2 10 34 36 8	$\begin{array}{c} 1\\4\\14\\\hline 2\end{array}$
Satley Totals	111	357	9	3	100	8	16	71	$\frac{2}{24}$	90	$\frac{2}{21}$

## **Drainage and Sewage**

The scheme to pump the Ushaw College sewage over Hill Top to Langley Park works was progressing well at the end of the year and is expected to be put into operation in the early part of 1962.

## Sanitary Accommodation

There were two conversions from conservancy to water carriage during the year and the revised figures caused by the building of new houses and the closing and demolition of individual properties were as follows:—

Water Closets	 	 4,555
Ash Closets	 	 77
Ash-pit Privies		 37

## Atmospheric Pollution.

With the closing down of Langley Park By-Product plant and the conversion of the Lee Hill Hospital coal fired boilers to oil burning we now have virtually no industrial pollution in the area. The only coal fired plant is Cornsay Brickyard but this is well managed and rarely gives cause for complaint.

Our atmospheric pollution problem is confined almost entirely to the domestic chimney and the only satisfactory method of control is by the establishment of smoke control areas. This would not be difficult in a district where many of the houses are already fitted with approved grates suitable for burning smokeless fuels.

## **Prevention of Damage by Pests**

The Rodent problem continues to give rise to complaints and notification is usually prompt in the case of buildings. However, in remote areas there is a constant need for supervision to keep infestations under control.

The sewer systems were treated twice during the year and of the 626 manholes involved, 201 were baited and 93 showed complete poison bait takes.

Seventy-four surface infestations were inspected and treated which included houses, business premises, local authority properties and farms. These revealed 67 rat and 17 mice infestations. (See Appendix 'D').

## **Disinfestation Surveys and Treatment**

In accordance with the usual practice 163 visits of inspection were made of the furnishings of prospective Council house tenants and all were found to be free from vermin.

One school was treated for a cockroach infestation and one house for flies which had swarmed in a disused nest in a fireplace flue.

## Refuse Removal and Disposal

The character of refuse is changing to greater bulk and reduced weight on account of so many households using packaged goods.

The new fore and aft tipping vehicles are coping with the refuse, and on the whole, cheaper to operate and more efficient. Nevertheless there is a problem in trying to restrict untidiness and in coping with the slower rate of final settlement of tips. This involves increased cost in preparation control and restoration works.

#### **Ash-bin Renewal Scheme**

In the course of renewing bins at cost plus an administrative charge, 36 bins were sold during the year. The scheme is now so well known that we have little trouble with unsatisfactory ash-bins.

## (b) Housing and Factories

## (i) General

The only new houses erected during the year were 36 built by private enterprise and located as follows:—

Lanchester	 	 9
Castleside	 	 25
Langley Park	 • •	 2
		36

## (ii) Formal Undertakings to Close

There are a few properties distributed over the area which are not not worth further expenditure and the policy is to close them as they are vacated. Six such properties were formally dealt with in this way.

		No.	Vacant	Occupied
1 & 2, Glen View, Stoney	Heap,			
Greencroft	• •	2	1	1
4, Stoney Heap, Greencroft		1	1	
3, Fell Cottages, Hedleyhill		1		1
1 & 2, Saltersgate Cotts	• •	2	1	1
		6	3	3

#### (iii) Repairs and Reconditioning

Under the Discretionary and Standard Grants Scheme the total number of applications dropped considerably. Most of the applicants were owner occupiers, but many rented houses are in much need of improving and more applications from the landlords of these houses would be welcome.

The total achievement after almost ten years of operation of the scheme cannot be regarded as being very progressive.

## **Discretionary Grants**

Of the applications approved in respect of 35 houses only 8 were completed during the year, but 21 houses concerned with application prior to 1961 were also completed making a total of 29. There still remains 93 houses in various incomplete stages at the end of the year.

#### **Standard Grant**

Of 5 applications made 4 were completed leaving one case outstanding

The table shows the progressive position at the 31st December 1961.

#### **DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**

	Numl	ber of		umber of Number Ap's Number Ap's Approved House						
Year	App's	Hses	App's	Hses	App's	Hses	App's	Hses	Com- pleted	Incom- pleted
1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961	7 4 33 32 28 25 19 43 47 24	9 5 55 33 28 33 47 57 87 39	2 -5 6 4 7 1 3 4 3	4 			5 4 28 24 23 18 17 40 42 20	5 45 25 23 26 45 54 81 35		5 6 32 18 19 28 53 53 87 27
Totals	262	393	35	43	6	6	221	344	251	93
			,	STANE	ARD (	GRANT	rs			
1959 1960 1961	1 4 5	1 4 5			_	_	1 4 5	1 4 5	1 2 4	2 1
Totals	10	10					10	10	7	3

## (iv) Medical Priority for Re-housing

During the year there was one case recommended for rehousing on medical grounds — a man suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, but he refused the house offered.

#### (v) **Demolitions and Closures**

Only one house, vacant for some time, was demolished during the year:—

21, Hill Top, Esh.

## (vi) Back-to-Back Houses

There was a further reduction by two in the number of such houses and this occurred at Langley Park where two houses were converted and modernised into one self-contained house. The present position is as follows:—

Situation Quebec Street, Langley Park Commercial Street, Cornsay Railway Terrace, Hamsteels	• •	No Houses 5 4 2	Occupied 2 1	<i>Vacant</i> 3 3 2
		11	3	8

## (vii) Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There is one site licence for a private club for a maximum of 24 caravans, and there are only 3 other temporary licences for 4 caravans (2 on one site).

#### **Factories**

Of the 52 factories in the area only 10 are of any size, the remainder being very small units employing very few staff. 123 visits of inspections were made with emphasis in food factories. For details of inspections see Appendix C.

The classification of the factories is as follows:—

			With	Without	
Trade			Power	Power	Total
Agricultural Contractor			2		2
Bakeries			2		2
Blacksmith			1	1	2
Boot Repairer		• •	1	1	2
Brick Works			2		2
Builders Yards			3	6	8
Cosmetic Manufacture			1		1
Clothing Manufacture			1	4	1
Engineering Works			1		1
Glove Manufacture			1		1
Ice Cream Manufacture			2 3		2
Joinery Works and Joiners			3	1	5
Marine Store Dealers	• •			1	1
Motor Repairers			12		12
Painter and Decorator	• •			1	1
Poultry Plucking			1		1
Radio Repairer			1		1
Sawmills	• •		1	***************************************	1
Sausage Makers	• •		10		10
			45	11	56
				STATE OF THE PARTY	-

#### **Outworkers**

Only one person was notified by an outside authority as an outworker in the garment industry.

#### Noise Abatement Act 1960

The first complaint made under this Act related to the noise created by an automatic oil fired boiler plant recently fitted in a hospital. The complaint was satisfactorily dealt with by the operators.

## (c) General Inspections

The following is a summary of inspections made and notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts:—

			Î	No. of Inspections	No. of Informal Notices served	No. of Statutory Notices served	No. of Defects remedied after Notice
Housing:		<b>A</b> .		100	002		620
Public Health and H	lousing A	Acts	• •	423	883		638
Overcrowding	• •	• •	• •	_			_
Sanitary Conveniences				0	4.0		4.6
Insufficient		• •		9	19		16
Defective				7	60		42
Drainage				41	76		54
Water Supply			• •	52	42		32
Food Premises				36	32_		27
Ice-Cream				15	2		2 2
Dairies & Milk Sampli	ing			15	2		2
Slaughter-houses:							
Public							
Private				91	59		52
Tents, Vans, etc				60	51		5
Offensive Trades							
Factories				123	5		5
Keeping of Animals				16	16		16
Insanitary Ashpits and				59	23		21
Offensive accumulation				232	104		97
Smoke Nuisances				3	1		1
Prevention of Damage	by Pests	s Act.		26	6		6
Verminous Premises	0) 1 000	, , ,	, 1, 1,	6	3		3
I.D. Investigations	• •	• •	• •	24	_		_
Other Nuisances	• •	• •	• •	21	14		14
Noise Nuisances	• •	• •	• •	5	1		1
roise ransances	• •	• •	• •		1		1
	Totals	• •		1,264	1,399		1,034

## (d) Inspection and Supervision of Food

## (i) General

As a result of health education, business competition and public demand, a reasonable standard of food hygiene is maintained, but constant supervision is necessary.

The increasing trend for mobile food shops underlines the need for defining them legally as "premises", and thus Shops, Food and Ice-Cream legal requirements could apply to them.

## (ii) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The following premises were registered under the Act as being concerned with the manufacture, storage and sale of food:—

Ice Cream Manufacture Ice Cream Storage and S		• •	2 37
Sausage manufacture,	Meats	or	31
Preserved Foods	 		10
Fried Fish	 		9
			<del></del>
			58

In addition there are the following types of food premises:—

Bakehouses	 	 	2
Catering, Cafe, etc.	 	 	4
General Dealers	 	 	53
Confectioners	 	 	12
Greengrocers	 	 	2
Meat Shops	 	 	11
Licenced Premises	 	 	31 (4 Off-licenced)
			115

## (iii) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-48

Only two establishments are concerned with the manufacture of Ice-Cream which they retail through their own businesses.

37 premises retail pre-packed Ice-Cream of the hard variety and retail vans from other districts operate in the area.

15 samples were taken and with one exception were satisfactory, the unsatisfactory sample being followed up and the fault corrected.

$No.\ of$		G	rade
Samples	1	2	3
15	13	1	1

## (iv) Meat and Other Foods. Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

As none of the five owners of the slaughtering premises who had intimated they were prepared to reconstruct their premises to comply with the regulations had done so by the appointed day, 1st January, 1961, they all were required to cease slaughtering on the 31st December, 1960.

Subsequently one owner decided not to proceed with the reconstruction of his premises, leaving four who agreed to comply. In three of these the works were completed and slaughtering was resumed during the year leaving the fourth case outstanding.

The structural alterations and new equipment are a great improvement upon the old arrangements and make all aspects of the work, hygiene and inspection, more satisfactory.

For details of the meat and offal condemned see *Appendix 'F'*.

All animals slaughtered are inspected and condemned meat is stained and dispensed of under our supervision.

There were 15 slaughtermen registered at the end of the year.

Other foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption were as follows:—

Commodi	ty	Amount
Apricots .		 2 tins
Butter .	•	 4 lbs.
Corned Bee	f	 16 tins
Cooked Har	m	 2 tins
Condensed	Milk	 4 tins
Chicken .		 1 tin
Cheese .		 1 tin
Cream .		 1 tin
Fruit Salid		 5 tins
Grapefruit		 4 tins
Luncheon N	<b>Aeat</b>	 2 tins
Oranges .		 1 tin
Pears		 2 tins
Peaches		 8 tins
Prunes .		 2 tins
Pineapples		 2 tins
Pork .		 7 tins
Peas .		 3 tins
Steak .	• •	 1 tin
Sardines .		 1 tin
Salmon .		 3 tins
Soup .		 3 tins
Syrup .		 1 tin
Tongue .		 1 tin
Tomatoes .		 13 tins

## (e) Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

There was an increase in the number of confirmed cases during the year — there being 317 as compared with 223 in 1960; the difference was mainly due to an epidemic of measles, which occurred during last year. For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see *Appendix 'B'*.

During the year, all infectious diseases needing hospitalisation were admitted to Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

#### **Laboratory Facilities**

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Newcastle General Hospital.

There are two known paratyphoid carriers in the district.

The numbers of specimens sent for examination during the past ten years are as follows:—

	Spe	ecimens	
Year	Ŝul	bmitted	Positive
1952	 	61	12
1953	 	204	80
1954	 	402	68
1955	 	317	115
1956	 	250	65
1957	 	57	30
1958	 	79	17
1959	 	69	43
1960	 	54	22
1961	 	12	2

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department and the Medical Practitioners in the area for examination during the year :—

					No. of Specimens Submitted	Positive
Blood (Serological Examination	s)					
(a) Enteric Fever						
(b) Other Organisms					_	—
Faeces						
(a) Enteric Fever					—	<u> </u>
					5 3	—
					3	—
(d) Other Organisms					<del></del>	—
<b>Jrine</b>						
(a) Enteric Fever					—	_
					<del></del>	—
Swabs (Ear, Nasal, Throat, Sew	er a	nd Rivei	·)			
(a) Diphtheria					1	—
(b) Haemolytic Streptococo	ci				2	1
					-	_
Sputum for Tuberculosis		• •	• •		1	1
		Tota	als		12	2

## Notifiable Diseases reported during the Year 1961

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Area during the year :—

L	)isease	2			Total No. of Cases Notified	Total No. of Cases Confirmed	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Whooping Cou	gh				2	2	_	
Measles					291	291	_	
Erysipelas					2	2		
Dysentery					1	1	_	_
Pneumonia				1	4	4	_	_
Scarlet Fever					7	7	<u> </u>	—
Food Poisoning	g				1		1	
Poliomyelitis					2	2	_	
Puerperal Pyres	xia		• •		4	4	1	_
			Total	• •	314	313	2	_

**Scarlet Fever.** There were 7 cases notified as compared with 15 last year. The infections were mild in type and no cases were admitted to hospital.

Measles. An epidemic of measles occurred early in the year; 291 cases were notified, none were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths. In 1960 there were 170 cases.

Whooping Cough. There were only 2 cases notified during the year as compared with 13 in the previous year.

The reduction in the number of cases is probably due to the increased numbers being immunized. Whooping Cough can still be a dangerous disease in childhood particularly in infants under one year. For this reason it is important that immunization should be commenced early in infancy—at the age of 2 or 3 months. It can be given either as Whooping Cough vaccine alone or in a combined vaccine—(Whooping Cough—Diphtheria Combined), or Triple Vaccine (Whooping Cough—Diphtheria—Tetanus).

**Poliomyelitis.** During the year there were two cases of poliomyelitis notified. Both were in boys aged 4 years — 1 was non-paralytic, and one paralytic (slight paralysis).

In the month of April, in view of the markedly greater risk of infection to which children in school are exposed, it was recommended by the Ministry of Health that a reinforcing fourth dose should be offered to children when they entered school (usually at the age of five) also to children of five and over already at school, who had not reached the age of twelve.

In all cases the reinforcing dose was to be administered not earlier than one year after the third dose, but as soon thereafter as possible. Special clinics were held in the area for giving of fourth doses and also for vaccinating children who had received no previous injections.

Following the notification of the first case of poliomyelitis, special vaccination sessions were held in all the schools in the area, and as usual on such occasions there was a tremendous demand for vaccination.

Since the inception of the scheme 438 people had received 4 injections, 2,710 three injections and 1,022 two injections.

Food Poisoning. There was only 1 case of food poisoning notified during the year, the infecting organism was Salmonella typhimurium.

**Dysentery.** Only 1 case of dysentery was notified as compared with 16 in the previous year — the infecting organism was Shigella Sonnei.

**Diphtheria.** No cases of this disease were notified. The last case in the district occurred in 1949 and the last death in 1944. Nevertheless it must be remembered that this very satisfactory position has been achieved by immunisation and it can only be maintained by continuing to keep the immunity of the children at a high level. It is important to secure immunisation of not less than 75 per cent. of babies before their first birthday.

The total numbers (all age groups) immunised during the year were as follows:—

Primary Injections .. .. 189 Boosters .. .. 88 Diphtheria Notification Rates (per 1,000 population) and number of Deaths from Diphtheria are as follows:—

Year	No. of Confirmed Notifications of Diphtheria	Notification Rate per 1,000 Population	No. of Deaths from Diphtheria
1934	68	1.9	8
1935	48	1.4	10
1936	66	2.5	5
1937	91	5.8	12
1938	60	3.8	4
1939	7	0.45	_
1940	5	0.33	_
1941	12	0.8	
1942	10	0.7	
1943	14	0.96	_
1944	11	0.8	1
1945	3	0.2	_
1946	5	0.3	_
1947	1	0.06	_
1948	_	0.00	
1949	1	0.06	
to 1961	None confirmed	_	_

**Tuberculosis.** Four cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with two in 1960. There was only one death — a woman aged 61 years, who was notified for the first time after death. There were 3 deaths in 1960.

The scheme for offering B.C.G. to school children was continued during the year and all children of 12 years and upwards were eligible for vaccination. The idea is to offer protection to the children at an age when they are most susceptible to tuberculosis.

A report from the Medical Research Council shows that B.C.G. vaccine has been found by clinical trial in England to confer a substantial measure of protection against tuberculosis in adolescence and early adult life.

During November and December vaccination sessions were carried out in 5 schools and all the eligible children whose parents had given consent were vaccinated.

## 1. Statistics

				Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total
(a) Number of new cases January, 1961:—	notified	since	1st			
Males				3		3
Females	• •			1	_	1
					_	
	Tota	als		4	_	4
					-	
(b) Number of deaths Reg	istered:-	_				
Males	• •			<del></del>		—
Females	• •			1	_	1
				_		
	$T_{0}$	otals		1		1
		_				
		perculo				
Register at the 31st $\Gamma$	December,	, 1961	:			
Males	• •			37	16	53
Females	• •	• •		36	20	56
	Т	otals	• •	73	36	109

It will be noted that there were four new cases notified during the year as compared with 2 last year.

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows:—

100		CA	SES			DEA	THS	
Age Period	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulme	onary	Non- Pulmonary	
Years 0-4 5-10 11-15 16-20 21-25 26-30 31-35 36-40 41-45 46-50 51-55 56-60 61-65 66-70 71-75 76-80 81 and over	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F.
	3	1	_	_	1	_		_
Totals	4		4		1			·

Number and rate per 1,000 population of notifications and deaths over the last 20 years :—

Year	No. of Notifications	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.
1942	15	1.059	7	0.49
1943	15	1.082	9	0.65
1944	14	1.010	9	0.64
1945	24	1.714	9 7	0.50
1946	13	0.897	4	0.27
1947	21	1.441		0.27
1948	20	1.306	8	0.52
1949	15	0.997	4	0.39
1950	20	1.304	4 8 4 9 2 3 2	0.57
1951	36	2.349	2	0.13
1952	18	1.182	3	0.19
1953	14	0.921	2	0.13
1954	12	0.788	1	0.06
1955	13	0.865		
1956	9	0.599	2	0.13
1957	5	0.332	1	0.06
1958	4	0.265		0.06
1959	7	0.462	5	0.33
1960	2	0.131	1 5 3 1	0.19
1961	2 4	0.274	1	0.08

#### Tuberculosis Services in the Area

- (i) At the Chest Clinic at Villa Real, there are special sessions for contacts of known cases of tuberculosis.
- (ii) Those needing sanatorium treatment are in the main admitted to Maiden Law Tuberculosis Unit; those needing major surgical treatment being transferred to Seaham Hall, Poole or Wolsingham Sanatorium.
- (iii) There were 109 patients on the tuberculosis register at the end of the year. Most cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are registered by the Ministry of Labour as disabled persons and each patient is assessed at the Chest Clinic before returning to work. There is close co-operation between the Chest Physician and the Disablement Resettlement Officer, and if thought suitable a course of industrial rehabilitation at Felling Unit is arranged and some patients are referred to Finchale Abbey Training Centre for further training.
- (iv) The vaccination of eligible school children with B.C.G. was carried out in the schools during the months of November and December. Altogether 207 children attending 5 schools were tuberculin tested and 132 were given B.C.G. vaccine. (See details on Page 22).
- (v) The Mass Radiography Unit visited Langley Park in February and Lanchester in October. It is particularly important for all men over 45 years of age to have an annual X-ray of the chest as it is in this age group that the highest incidence of chest disease is now found. The X-rays used for this purpose employ only a tiny charge of radiation and the machines are especially designed to protect the body from this small amount.

The following are the numbers X-rayed in the Langley Park and Lanchester survey:—

		Total
Langley Park (General Public)	 	 41
Siris (Products) Ltd., Lanchester	 	 453
Lee Hill Hospital (Staff)	 	 85
Lanchester (General Public)	 	 85
		664

# B.C.G. VACCINATION OF ELIGIBLE SCHOOLCHILDREN IN THE LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT FOR 1960

(1) School	(2) Consents	Give	3)* n Skin ests	Pos	4) itive ctors	Neg Rea	5) ative ctors B.C.G.	(6) No. Absent at time of Readings
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Lanchester R.C. Lanchester Modern Esh Laude R.C. Burnhope Modern Langley Park Modern	8 45 13 51 99	8 43 13 50 93	100.0 95.56 100.0 98.04 93.94	2 15 3 8 29	25.0 34.88 23.08 16.0 31.18	5 27 10 37 53	62.50 62.79 76.92 74.00 56.99	1 1 -4 6
Totals	216	207	95.83	57	27.54	132	63.77	12

Notes: \*Column 4(b) gives % of acceptors given skin tests. The Heaf Multiple Puncture Skin Tuberculin Test was used. B.C.G. was given in doses of 0.1 ml. intra-dermally.

## B. Local Health Authority Services

In 1948, the County Council adopted the Ministry approved scheme of dividing the Administrative County into Areas for each of which an Area Health Sub-Committee was appointed. Lanchester Rural, Consett Urban and Stanley Urban Districts with a total population of approximately 102,000, comprise No. 3 Area, meetings of the Area Health Sub-Committee being held quarterly. The Area Office is situated at the Health Department, Council Offices, Tantobie.

The County Medical Officer has kindly agreed to the incorporation in this report of the statistics relating to the personal health services.

## (a) Clinics

#### (i) Birth Control

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, on alternate Tuesday mornings.

## (ii) Maternity and Child Welfare

Clinics for the above are held as follows:—

Wesleyan Methodist Schoolroom, Langley Park — alternate Thursday afternoons.

Parish Hall, Lanchester — alternate Monday mornings.

Social Service Hut, Burnhope — alternate Wednesday mornings.

THE CLINIC, 10, WOOD VIEW, ESH WINNING — alternate Wednesdays.

## (iii) Immunisation and Vaccination

This has been carried out at :—

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic throughout the area;
- (b) By General Medieal Practitioners by personal arrangement with perents.

When a child reaches the age of three months propaganda material is sent through the post to all parents. Details of facilities together with the consent forms for smallpox vaccination; diphtheria, whooping cough and Tetanus immunisation are enclosed with this literature. When a child reaches the age of twelve months and 4 years 9 months, further propaganda pamphlets regarding diphtheria immunisation are sent.

## Particulars of Immunisation and Vaccination during 1961

Sma	allpox	Dipht	theria	Whoopir	ig Cough	Dipht	canus theria ng Cough		Poliomy njection		B.C.G.
Vac- cinated	Re-Vac cinated	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Vac- cination
83	25	84	50	72	23	152	43	885	337	438	132

#### (iv) School Clinics

Separate accommodation is set aside in Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, for this clinic. It is attended on Tuesdays and Fridays by the School Medical Officer who also carries out the routine inspection of children at the schools in the Rural District.

## (b) Nursing in the Home and Midwifery Services

#### (i) Midwifery

During the year 249 live and still-births were assigned to the area. 54 per cent. occurred in hospital and 46 per cent. at home and of these 23 were in the presence of a Doctor. There were no maternal deaths, but 4 still-births and 3 deaths in the first week of life.

Of the two County Midwives and four District Nurse Midwives, four own cars which they are authorised to use in the course of their official duties.

All midwives are trained in the use of and possess apparatus for gas and air analgesia. 60 per cent. of the domiciliary cases were given gas and air analgesia and 30 per cent. were given pethidine.

#### (ii) Domiciliary Nursing

A total of 7,662 home visits were made by the domiciliary nurses during the year, 4,255 (55.5 per cent.) of which were made to patients over the age of 65 years.

The following is an analysis of these visits and the types of cases nursed:—

	Ac	GE GROU	JPS		CLASSIFICATION						
	0—5 yrs.	5—65 yrs.	$ 65 \times \text{yrs.} $	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Maternal Complica- tions	Injections only	Others	
New Cases	4	76	100	128	43		7	2	_	_	
Visits	77	3,330	4,255	5,739	1,144		560	24	2,637	195	

## (c) Health Visitor Service

There were two Health visitors in the Lanchester Rural District, the following domiciliary visits being made during the year:—

Maternity and Child	Welfare	 3,372
Tuberculosis		 151
Mental Deficiency		 126
Schools		 149
General Health		 66
Aged People		 91

## (d) Ambulance Service

The major needs of the Rural District are served jointly by the County Ambulance depots situated at Villa Real, Consett and East Street, Stanley, details of the establishment of personnel and vehicles at each being as follows:—

		Consett	Stanley
Depot Superintendents		 1	1
Driver Attendants		 11	27
Telephonists		 	1
Ambulances		 6	7
Light Sitting-case Ambulance	ces	 1	2

The Consett depot functions from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and is closed on Sunday.

The Stanley Depot provides a 24 hour service acting as a reception point for calls arising in the North-West portion of the County and being responsible for the emergency service in the whole of the area, besides having capacity to handle out-patients from the Stanley area attending hospitals for examination and treatment. Both depots function under the overall supervision of the Central Control at Durham, Stanley being linked by a direct telephone line. An additional measure of control is achieved by having radio installed on one vehicle at Consett and three vehicles at Stanley.

To further improve co-ordination in the area a liaison officer operates at the Shotley Bridge General Hospital.

The following tables give details of the work undertaken by both depots during the year 1961 but it is not possible to indicate the proportion relating to patients residing in the Rural District. It should also be noted that other depots, particularly Durham are frequently involved in moving cases into or out of the area.

		Pe	atients Carri	ied	Milagga
Depot	Journeys	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	- Mileage Covered
Consett	3,670	3,033	2,992	6,025	115,940
Stanley	6,864	4,835	16,926	21,761	176,038

## (e) Domestic Help Service

At the beginning of January 1961, 88 cases in this district were being served by a Home Help. There were 31 new cases during the year and of the 119 receiving the service, 109 (91 per cent. were chronic sick, aged and infirm). At the end of the year there were 85 cases in the area, 34 cases having been terminated during the year.

#### (f) Mental Health Services

Occupation Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children

The Villa Real Centre has continued to be used for mentally defective children excluded from school under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944. Twelve males up to the age of 16, 13 females under 21 and 5 females over 21 from the North-West of Durham travel daily to this Centre. The Education Department arrange for the provision of school meals and free milk for these pupils and for transport to and from the Centre.

#### (g) Local Health Authority Hostel Accommodation

Admission of those needing care and attention to local health authority hostels is arranged directly with the County health department, but cases requiring urgent attention are often referred by their own doctor to the local health department.

During the year 7 people were admitted to Residential Accommodation as follows:—

	177
Ivy House, Sedgefield	
Mendip House, West Lane, Chester-	
le-Street	_
Lee Hill Hospital (Part III) Lanchester	1
Cambridge House, Barnard Castle	1
Heath House, Houghton-le-Spring	
rieddi House, Houghton le Spring	

<i>M</i> .	<i>F</i> . 1	Children. —
1 1	1 - 1	
2	3	2

During the year it was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948-51 for compulsory removal of any old person.

## (C) Hospital Services and General Medical Practitioner Service

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The Secretary has kindly provided the following information on the Hospitals and Clinics serving this Area.

Maiden Law Hospital

The 114 beds at this hospital are allocated as follows:—

Ear, Nose and Throat Chest Unit (Tuberculosis)	• •	• •	 - 30 - 60
Orthopaedic		• •	 24
			114

Lee Hill Hospital

This hospital, with a complement of 307 beds (62 of which are used as Part III accommodation for the County Council) and a Medical Outpatients' Department, deals with the Chronic Sick and includes a section for Orthopaedic Tuberculosis cases.

Bed allocation is as follows:—

Orthopaedic		 	 28
Mental		 	 44
Chronic Sick		 	 173
Part III Accommo	dation	 	 62
		Total	 307

**Shotley Bridge Hospital** 

Out-patient facilities for all the Specialities exist at this hospital. The 529 beds are allocated as follows:—

C · 1					100
Surgical	• •	• •	• •		108
Medical					94
Gynaecological		• •	• •	• •	43
Orthopaedic					71
Paediatrics					4
Thoracic Surgery					114
Radiotherapy					50
Plastic Surgery					45
			Total	l	529

Richard Murray Hospital

There are 32 Obstetric beds at this hospital.

South Moor Hospital

Ti				1.4
Thoracic			• •	 14
Orthopaedic				 8
General Surgery	• •	• •		 16
				38

(A large number of General Medical, Surgical and Gynaecological cases from the Langley Park area also drain to Dryburn Hospital).

## Chest Clinic, Villa Real

This clinic operating from the converted wing of the old Infectious Diseases Hospital, provided a full chest clinic service, including B.C.G. and resettlement sessions as follows:—

Tuesday ... 9.15 a.m. Contacts of known cases 1.15 p.m. X-ray session (Male)

Wednesday .. 9.15 a.m. Males

1.15 p.m. X-ray session (Female)

Friday .. 9.15 a.m. Females

2.00 p.m. Children up to 16 years and B.C.G.

vaccination X-ray session (expectant

mothers)

#### Venereal Diseases

Treatment and diagnostic facilities are provided by Clinics outside the Rural Area as follows:—

Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Males and Females :—

Monday to Friday: 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

2 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Durham County Hospital.

Females: Monday and Thursday, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Males: Monday, 4.30 to 6 p.m.

#### **Executive Committee**, Durham

This Committee controls the services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946. There are ten General Medical Practitioners, two Opticians and two Dispensing Chemists operating in the area.

DPPENAIX ", A"

d d	Tuber- culosis	.lud-noN	874988000898499498748
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s of I	1	Diphtheris	09 2010 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Case	นุธีno	) gniq'AW	822 822 822 823 832 833 833 834 835 835 835 835 835 835 835 835
No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified	Ver	Scarlet Fer	30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 3
Z -		Measles	133 133 133 153 163 163 184 184 184 134 134 137 170 170 291
	Death	Neo-Natal Rate	23.6 20.4 46.0 20.4 46.0 20.4 16.12 31.8 16.12 19.76 28.31 19.76 13.45 16.32
S	Neo-Natal Deaths		
Э	ith Rate	Infant Des	67 28 57 66 59 61 61 63 61 40 40 81 30 40 81 30 40 81 30 30 40 81 31 39 40 81 31 39 40 81 31 39 40 40 81 40 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81 81
	Seaths	I əlitastal	51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51
	(	Birth Rate	15.4 14.2 14.2 16.6 16.6 16.0 16.0 16.0 16.0 16.0 16.0
	Live Births		238 2226 2226 236 236 237 237 245 245 245 245 245 245 245 245 245 245
(ə)	Death Rate (crude)		10.2 11.6 11.6 11.6 11.0 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9 10.9
	Deaths		158 178 176 176 177 177 177 177 177 177 177 177
	Topulation		15,080 15,480 14,690 14,690 14,000 14,000 15,310 15,310 15,020 15,020 15,020 15,030 15,030 15,040 15,040 15,040 15,040
		Year	1938 1940 1940 1942 1944 1945 1946 1950 1950 1950 1950 1950 1950 1950

APPENDIX "B"

Analysis of the Notified and Confirmed cases of Notifiable Diseases under Age Groups for 1961

ALS	°.	7	2	291		2	2	4		4	4	317
Totals	z	7	2	291	-	2	2	4		4	4	318
d er	0	1				-		-				60
66 and over	z.	1			-	-						8
95	o.					-		3		3		7
46-65	ż					-		8		3		7
45	O						1					
36-45	z				1	T						
35			1							-	8	4
21-35	ż			1			1		-	-	8	5
20	o.			2							_	က
16-20	ż			22						1	-	က
15	C.	8		-								4
11-15	ż	8		-								4
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				42		1		1				42
2	ż			42			1					42
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	ż			30								30
Under one Year	ပ်			16		1	1				1	16
Un	ż			16						1		16
											:	
ease												als
Name of Disease		Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Poliomyelitis	Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Totals

## APPENDIX "C"

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## 1. Inspection of Factories

Premises	Number of.				
T REMISES	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted		
Factories	123	5	_		

## 2. Defects found in Factories

		Number of Defects				
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prose- cuted		
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts	_					
Want of Cleanliness		_				
Want of Ventilation	.	_				
Overcrowding		<u> </u>				
Want of Drainage of Floors	. 2		—			
Other Nuisances		_				
(a) Insufficient	. 6	3				
(b) Unsuitable or defective .	. 4	4				
(c) Not separate for sexes .	. —			—		
Totals .	. 12	7		_		

APPENDIX "D"

Prevention of Damage by Pests

		,	Ty	pe of Proper	rty	
		(1)  Local Authority	(2)  Dwelling  Houses	(3) All other (including business premises)	(4)  Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricul- tural
I.	No. of properties in Local Authorities District	32	4,403	265	4,600	245
II.	No. of properties inspected as a result of:—					
	<ul><li>(a) Notification</li><li>(b) Survey under the</li></ul>	15	44	10	69	5
	Act (c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for	22			22	
	some other pur pose)		163	_	163	
III.	Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	150	313	22	485	17
IV.	No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by —					
	Major (a) Rats Minor	10 11	6 23	7 7	23 41	3
	(b) Mice Minor	<del></del>	6 23 3 3	5	8 9	
V.	No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	26	35	20	81	3
VI.	No. of Notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act	_				
VII.	No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act					
VIII.	Legal Proceedings					-
<del></del>	No. of "Block" control schemes carried out		_			

## APPENDIX "E"

Location of Sewage	Area Drained	No. of I Draining			
Disposal Works (All Tank & Filter type)		Houses	Bldgs.	Estimated Popul'ion	
Lanchester	Lanchester, Maiden Law and approx. half of Burnhope	847 174	15	2,710 605	
Burnhope	Approx. half Burnhope	361	12	1,264	
Peartree	Peartree	25	_	89	
Holmside	Holmside	41		109	
Langley Park	Langley Park and Esh Village, part by gravitation part by pumping	1,495	29	5,016	
Esh Winning vested in Lanchester R.D.C. & Brandon U.D.C. jointly	Part of Cornsay Colliery, Hamsteels New Estate Hamsteels, Esh Colliery, Property in Brandon U.D.C. area	618	10	2,113	
Hedleyhill Pit	Hedleyhill	11	<del>-</del>	38	
East Hedleyhope	East Hedleyhope	46	3	162	
Hedleyhope Colliery	Hedleyhope Colliery	3		15	
Cornsay Village	Cornsay Village	20		63	
Quebec	Quebec and Wilkes Hill	84	4	296	
Hollinside	Hollinside	21		78	
Malton	Malton Colliery	11	2	38	
Satley	Satley	44	2	147	
Castleside	Western half of Castleside, Sewage from the remainder of Castleside accepted for treatment by Consett U.D.C.	178	5	620	

APPENDIX "F"

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	183		_	575	146	
Number inspected	183			575	146	
All diseases except Tubercu- losis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	1			2		
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	32		-	195	7	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber-culosis and Cysticerci	18.03			34.26	4.8	
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned			,		_	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.54			_		
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was discovered	_					

